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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 2

February 1995

Students Share Learning

Grade Schoolers
Research,
Develop
Information Programs
On
Forest Service Topics

by Judy Hensel,
Public Information Officer,
Missoula County Public Schools

Missoula, Montana middle school students and the Forest Service have found that they can work together and produce a product that can be of use to both.

Two multi-media programs the Rattle-

snake Middle School students created have "astounded" the Forest Service personnel because of the complexity of the task. The informational programs, that will be used in kiosk machines, are based on the student's research, photography, art work and knowledge of technology.

For those who understand computer language, the students created 504 files and used 9 megabytes of memory in the process.

"The project has a lot of promise" for future collaborative work, according to Keith Thurlkill, interpretive services, Division of Wilderness, Recreation & Heritage Programs, in the Forest Service's Northern Region headquarters in Missoula. It also shows, he said, that "we can learn as much from the students as they learn from us."

It all began last spring when twenty-four 8th graders were divided into two teams under the direction of their teachers, Gary Gagermeier, computer lab, and Larry Winters, 8th-grade math & science. Five 6th graders joined the project later.

The students chose two topics from a list provided by the Forest Service: (1) the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and (2) Wilderness Philosophy & Management and Backcountry User Ethics. The Forest Service provided reference materials, planned field trips, refined objectives and provided feedback.

But teachers and professionals stepped back and let the students design, research and do all of the computer work. The programs are in color, include sound and short tests, are full of information and allow the customer to select various options.



Rattlesnake Middle School students Lacey Smith & Joel Munson review their project work with Keith Thurlkill from the Forest Service's Northern Region headquarters.

Photo by Missoula County Public Schools

The wilderness program will be used eventually at ranger stations and in conjunction with the Ninemile pack train. Its table of contents includes "Leave No Trace," "Bears in the Wilderness Quiz" and "Wilderness Animals." The Nez Perce Trail program gives an overview of the entire trail and includes more detail on events and places between Lolo Pass, Stevensville, and Fort Fizzle. Both can be reproduced and used in schools.

Gagermeier said he is pleased with not only the results, but the learning experience of the students. "We are creating life-long learners," he said. Only about a third of the students had computer experience before they worked on the projects.

And what about the students? When asked what they found most valuable in the project, a few mentioned the challenge and the skills they learned, but most appreciated how they had learned to work together.

Glacier Institute in Second Decade of Resource Education

by Becky R. Smith
Forester (Recreation),
Tally Lake & Glacier View RD,
Flathead National Forest



Glacier Institute, a private, nonprofit organization provides natural resource and conservation-oriented education. The Institute has been increasing public awareness of ecosystem management and a variety of resource sustainability issues for more than a decade.

The Institute's Big Creek Outdoor Education Center is at the former Glacier View Ranger Station, on the North Fork of the Flathead River, 20 miles north of Columbia Falls, Montana.

The area provides an ideal educational setting for residential courses and base facilities for field trips into the crown of the Continental Divide.

Founded in 1983, Glacier Institute has formal, cooperative agreements with Flathead NF, Glacier National Park, Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Glacier National Park History Association and the Flathead Valley Community College (Kalispell, MT.)

In 1993 more than 3,500 people from around the world participated in Institute programs. In 1990 the Institute received the National Resource Conservation Education Award and is the leader of the Flathead Valley Environmental Education Core Group, created to encourage and promote quality natural resource education.

Between September and October, more than 1,400 5th and 6th-grade students from western Montana, participated in 3-day, residential environmental education programs last year.

In the summer, four, 7-to-10-day residential field ecology programs are offered for elementary, junior high and high school students. Emphasis in these programs is on fundamentals of ecosystem science and resource management.

Resource professionals from cooperating agencies and Institute staff and private industry representatives conduct the programs. In response to a recognized need for an environmental education curriculum reflecting respect for cultural diversity and sensitivity to local tribal

perspectives — Blackfeet, Salish and Kootenai tribes — the Institute worked with Glacier National Park in developing and field testing a new curriculum and titled it "Workhouse." While the curriculum is designed for use by tribal schools, it also offers a useful model for more integrated, inclusive, and culturally sensitive curricula for schools throughout the country.

Flathead NF Supervisor Joel Holtrop announced last spring the award of an ecosystem education grant for \$6,400 to the Institute from the National Resource Conservation Education (NRCE) program. The Institute will use the grant in designing and initiating a program that will provide community-wide conservation-resource management benefits.

The Institute, in cooperation with the Flathead NF has also initiated an application to NRCE for a water quality monitoring project grant. The proposed project, "Freeflow," would be managed by the Institute and conducted by local Flathead Valley schools.

Flathead NF and the Institute are also planning to expand the fire ecology program offerings. Lex Blood, Institute president, explains that the role of fire in ecosystem management is now included at the Discovery Camps for 5th and 6th grade students.

Assistant District Ranger Deb Manley, Glacier View RD, says the Flathead NF believes that by placing an emphasis on this aspect of ecology will help young people better understand the role fire plays in ecosystems. To help in developing and implementing a curriculum for the summer field ecology programs, the Flathead NF has contributed \$5,000.

Blood reports the 1994 enrollment for the college credit course was twice the level the previous year. All four of the field ecology camps, with the exception of the high school program, were full. Many colleges, universities and private groups were in residence at Big Creek this past summer.

The Glacier Institute and the Flathead National Forest are continuing their efforts in the cooperative operation of the Big Creek Outdoor Education Center to reaffirm their goals and objectives in environmental education. The Forest Service and Glacier Institute are now preparing an agreement to provide for long term use of the Big Creek Outdoor Education Center.

For more detailed information about Glacier Institute programs, courses and registration procedure, telephone (406) 756-3911, or write P.O. Box 7457, Kalispell, MT. 59904.

Students enjoying environmental education sessions at Glacier Institute's Big Creek Outdoor Education Center.
Photo by Glacier Institute.

A note from Dave

Taking Risks

David F. Jolly,
Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service
Northern Region



My hope for the New Year for all of us is that we continue to enjoy the challenge of our jobs and that we never get so comfortable in our way of doing things that we shy away from taking risks. By taking risks, I don't mean violating the law, bending the rules, or going outside regulations. I mean having the courage to risk failure or criticism by doing things differently, stepping out from the safer middle ground and going to the edge in selecting an approach or in making a decision.

One of the biggest risks we can take as managers is empowering staff to take on an assignment and allow them the freedom to take it to completion. That means supporting the staff throughout the process and living with the results.

Critical to the success of empowerment, which is a new word for delegation of authority, is providing the proper training for staff and providing the organizational structure or the right atmosphere that engenders creative thinking and power sharing. There have to be sideboards from the outset and there must be clear agreement on the objective and how success will be measured. With these ground rules, empowerment should be a regularly used management tool.

If we wish to continue to be a progressive agency, we have to be receptive to new ideas—which includes new ways of management. Management style must suit the time and age. The authoritarian style that characterized much of the past way of supervision in the Forest Service is changing. More empowerment, fostering a creative environment, encouraging risk-taking usually translates into more advanced, more progressive management.

You don't have to be a manager or supervisor to be a risk taker. We can all depart from the norm, try a different approach with a job or project. What is important is that we set the tone for flexibility, creativity—and, when appropriate, risk taking. We should never be satisfied with the status quo, otherwise we'd never do things differently. Being on the cutting edge involves more than that, from all of us.

Health Insurance,
Thrift Plan

Open Seasons Important

by Margie Irvine,
Supervisory Personnel Assistant,
RO, Division of Personnel
Management

As we mark the changing of the seasons and holidays, Federal employees and retirees need to be alert to the health insurance and thrift saving plan open seasons and the opportunities they provide. Here are reminders:

Health Benefits (FEHBA): The last open season was November 14 to December 12 in 1994. There is only one open season per year. During an open season, an eligible employee who is not enrolled can register to enroll, or an enrollee may change from one health insurance plan or insurance plan option to another. Contact your personnel office for a registration form (SF-2809) to record the changes you want to make.

Each personnel office has booklets on each health insurance plan available in your area. Some of the plan's rates have dropped this year. But don't let that be the determining factor in making your choice. Review each plan in making your decision about which insurance program will best meet your health insurance needs.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP): The Thrift Savings Plan provides two open seasons each year, May 15 to July 31 and November 15 to January 31 of each year. Effective dates are determined when you submit your Thrift Savings Plan Election form (TSP-1) to your personnel office.

Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) employees can contribute up to 10% of their basic pay per pay period. FERS employees are eligible for the following TSP benefits: agency automatic (1%) contributions and agency matching contribution.

Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) employees can contribute up to 5% of their basic pay per pay period. CSRS employees are not eligible to receive any matching contributions from the agency.

The Thrift Savings Plan is a retirement savings/investment plan for FERS employees. It is one of the three tiers for a FERS employee's retirement.

During an open season, eligible employees can (a) choose to increase/decrease their contributions; (b) elect to enroll if they haven't done so previously; (c) can cancel their contributions; (d) can re-designate which TSP program their contributions are to be invested—there are three separate investment funds to select from, the 'G' fund (short-term nonmarketable U.S. Treasury securities); 'C' fund (S&P 500 stock); and the 'F' fund (U.S. Bonds).

TSP participants are eligible to make interfund transfers, moving some or all their existing account balance among the 'G', 'C' and 'F' funds. This can be done up to four times in any calendar year, in any month the participant wishes. Your personnel office can provide you with the TSP-30 form for interfund transfers.

Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI): Open seasons are rare for FEGLI.

Employees approaching retirement should be alert to the fact they must have at least 5 years of FEGLI coverage immediately prior to the date of retirement. Or, they must be covered for the entire periods of service during which they were available, if the period of coverage is less than 5 years. Employees should contact their personnel office if they have questions about FEGLI.

Access Management

Bonnerr's Ferry RD Makes It Easy To Do Right Thing

by Sandra Jacobson, Wildlife
Biologist, Bonnerr's Ferry RD,
Idaho Panhandle NF's

Why don't you Forest Service people get rid of those @#%\$### gates! You're closing off all my favorite huckleberry areas!"

"If the Forest Service REALLY cared about recovering the grizzly bear, they'd have closed a lot more roads-or obliterated them-a long time ago!"

"You know, I was against these rotten gates, but now that they're here, the fishin' sure has improved up in Smith Creek. Don't tell anybody I'm in favor of gates, though!"

"How are we going to have effective initial attack to protect woodland caribou habitat if we can't get to the fire in time? Just look at the Mankato Fire...if we'd had gated roads instead of NO roads, we would have kept it to a dozen acres instead of hundreds of acres of black caribou habitat."

"The Forest Service is discriminating against physically challenged people! How about us retired folks that can't hike the way we used to? Those gates are restricting our freedom to use OUR woods the way we want to!"

"How are we ever going to fit our planting needs, gabion construction, cattle allotment checks, and goshawk surveys into the 15-day administrative use window?"

All these statements, and more, have been heard many times. Access management in grizzly bear recovery areas is not a simple task—either socially or biologically.

With more than 150 gates on our district, drawing together all these diverse feelings about access required that we devise a system of management to make it 'easy to do the right thing'. Effective road restrictions assist our grizzly bear recovery efforts, aid other security-dependent wildlife, and still allow access for other resource needs.

Here are a few of the ideas we've found to be successful in our access management program.

COMMUNICATION

We've found folks are much more likely to do the right thing...that is, cooperate with road restrictions...if they know what is expected of them. So we make sure they know exactly where and when each gate is closed or open. Local news media releases remind folks which restrictions are coming up and why. A large map in the Ranger District lobby shows which gates are closed. This is checked daily so that any inaccuracies are quickly located. This information is also available for the receptionist for use in answering telephone inquiries. Calendars detailing the reason for the restriction, the dates closed, and any other information help both district personnel and the public to



Sandy Jacobson, wildlife biologist, Bonnerr's Ferry Rd, checks to ensure the lock is functioning properly on a grizzly bear gate.
Photo courtesy of THE SPOKESMAN REVIEW, Spokane, Washington.

better understand a complex gate system.

We try to be very prompt in opening or closing gates on the day they are scheduled. This reinforces and maintains our credibility.

Good communications isn't just for the public. We sometimes take it for granted that our employees know and understand all of our access rules. But since we are big users of the National Forest, it's very important that we show a good example to the public.

Each winter, we plan the following summer's administrative uses. As much as possible, we plan a period of use for each road that fits the seasonal needs of the activity (such as burning), and avoids seasons that bears are most likely to be in the area. We try to build in some wiggle-room in the schedule to accommodate unanticipated activities. In that way, we're able to work with folks instead of just being 'gate cops'. Early planning helps to coordinate users so that there is a minimum of activity in the bear units, and a minimum of confusion in the field season.

MONITORING & MAINTENANCE

Perhaps the best method we have of ensuring our gates are effective is to have a designated district gate manager. This person monitors gates regularly and does necessary maintenance. This position is not entirely funded for access management; each district function shares funding because access affects nearly every aspect of Forest Service and public activities.

The presence of a uniformed Forest Service employee on regular gate patrol tells everyone we're serious about access management. It makes it easy for the public to ask questions out in the woods, and provides our employees correct and consistent answers from one knowledgeable person.

Regular patrols are cost-effective because they tend to discourage vandalism or illegal access. By making repairs immediately, we foster respect from the public for the whole program.

ENFORCEMENT & COOPERATION

Law enforcement is an integral part of any access management program. Idaho Department of Fish and Game has been an extremely important player in our program, because it has cooperated in efforts at public relations, enforcement, and repairs.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funds a special law enforcement technician through Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act. This person's function is to work with local people to reduce illegal bear mortality.

Private landowners are important cooperators. A good example of this is the Grouse Bear Management Unit, where only 54% of the area is administered by the Forest Service on two Ranger Districts. The remainder is owned or managed by small private landowners, Crown-Pacific Industries (CPI), or Idaho Department of Lands (IDL). Through cooperative road restrictions, security has increased from about 46% secure to over 70% secure in the last 5 years.

We've worked hard to make it easy for our cooperators to live with restrictions by assuming the major responsibility for the work of coordinating funding and maintenance. In response, both IDL and CPI have been making an extra effort to cooperatively plan their activities further in advance than they have in the past. This helps the Forest Service in coordinating the two involved Districts with the two major landowners.

We make an effort to contact people while they are in the woods, especially on opening days of hunting seasons. If we can't make personal contact, we leave a Smokey Bear litter bag filled with bear identification cards, a "thank you for your cooperation" note, and maybe some other interesting literature.

Is it all worth it? You bet! We all benefit from the recovery of a part of our natural heritage.



"Great Bull Trout Hunt"

Close Encounters for the Third Time

by Michael D. Owen,
Southern Zone Fishery Biologist
Avery-St. Maries Ranger District
Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Throughout most of the year they stalk their prey in the depths of these mysterious waters.

Driven by instinct, yet undetected by most that visit the area, they methodically work their way towards the headwaters of the St. Joe River to participate in an act common to most living organisms. It is sometime after this spectacular event that volunteers descend upon the streams in the upper St. Joe watershed in search of evidence that this rarely observed species was present.

We call it the "Great Bull Trout Hunt" and September 24, 1994 marked the 3rd consecutive year that bull trout and their spawning nests (redds) have been counted by enthusiastic volunteers on the St. Joe Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

This year, nearly 50 folks participated in the instructional session on bull trout biology and redd identification, field invention, of bull trout and their redds, and salmon feed social that followed the days' events. Several groups were represented, including the Forest Service, Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Panhandle Trout Unlimited, North Idaho Fly Casters, students from Spokane (Washington) Community College, Washington Water Power Co. and several private citizens.

This year, 61 definite redds, 38 possible redds, and 12 adult fish were observed in nearly 50 miles of stream. Densities represented by these numbers are very similar to those from last year but are slightly higher than redd densities calculated from the first year's survey. One source of variation - and thus explanation for the difference between the first year's results and findings from the subsequent two years - is that our efforts were concentrated in areas of higher probability during the past two years. However, monitoring results over the three-year period demonstrate the low abundance and spatial distribution of bull trout spawning activity. This has implications for the survival of the species in the upper Spokane River system, which is totally inaccessible to fish stocks down stream from the outlet of Coeur d'Alene Lake.

Thanks are extended to all who made the 3rd Annual Great Bull Trout Hunt a success.

Special thanks go to Panhandle Trout Unlimited for their continued support in organizing the event, providing, and preparing the social feed, and to North Fork Idaho Fly Casters for supplying our morning coffee fix.

For those who were interested but could not make it in 1994, mark your calendars now for the last weekend of September in 1995.



Pictured at the dedication of Kamiah's new Welcome Center in December (left to right): Rick Kusicko, timber management assistant, Pierce RD; Donna Johnson, President of the Kamiah Chamber of Commerce; Cheryl Emch, rural development coordinator, Clearwater NF; Janet Cruz, President of the Kamiah Economic Development Committee; and Doug Gober, district Ranger, Pierce, RD.

Photo by Greg Johnson

Rural Community Assistance Grants Help Kamiah Build Welcome Center

The featured event at the Kamiah, Idaho, Chamber of Commerce's annual December Christmas party was the dedication of the community's new Welcome Center. Forest Service personnel from the Clearwater NF were guests at the dedication program.

Two Forest Service Community Assistance Grants totaling \$34,000 were among the many donations and in-kind contributions made by community individuals and businesses that made the welcome center and courtyard possible.

Forest Service Rural Community Assistance Grants are made to communities to assist in developing natural resource-based opportunities and enterprises that contribute to communities' economic, social and

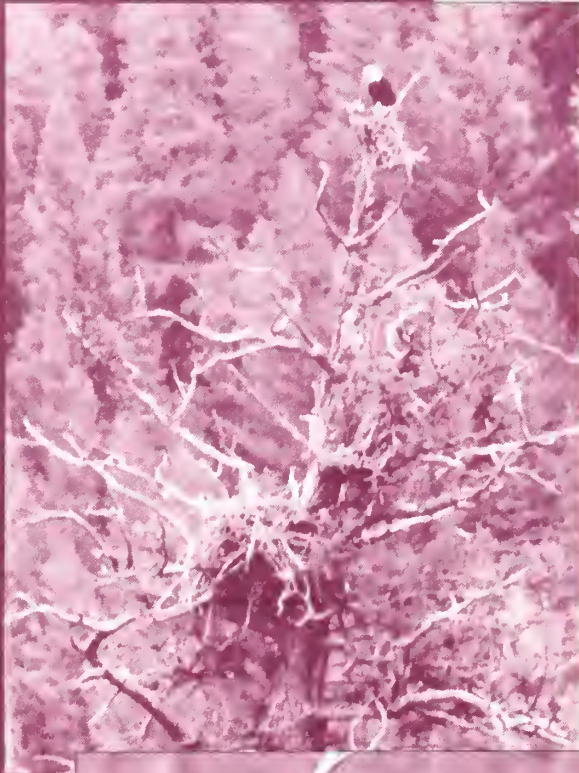
environmental vitality.

To be eligible for Rural Community Assistance Grants, communities must be located within 100 miles of a National Forest, meet certain population criteria, have at least 15% of the county income derived from sources related to natural resources, and experience a loss of jobs or income derived from natural resources due to government or private sector land management practices.

The welcome center and courtyard will be used for regular Chamber of Commerce meetings, special events, corporate training sessions, tourist events and will serve as an information center for tourists and other visitors.

Things Getting Better for Madison RD Wildlife

by Ron Wiseman,
Wildlife Biologist,
Madison RD,
Beaverhead NF



Things are getting better for elk, grouse, moose, bald eagle, bear, peregrine falcon and other wildlife. They are benefiting from recent work on the Madison Ranger District, Ennis, Montana, Beaverhead National Forest.

In cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Ruffed Grouse Society, the district has reinvigorated many stands of dying aspen.

A short time ago, the Forest Service was cutting down and burning old aspen trees. Now, many of these treated stands have as many as 30,000 new aspen shoots per acre. We expect to have many more new aspen stands in the southeastern half

of the Tobacco Root Mountains, the west side of the Madison Range, the Gravelly Range and the Snowcrest ranges—mostly in Madison County.

The Sikes Act enables State and Federal governments to share the costs of con-

servation projects. State funding under the Sikes Act helped in financing the removal of more than three miles of old wire fencing in the Tobacco Root Mountains and the Gravelly Range. The fencing blocked elk, deer and moose migrations. The Mountain Trail Riders from Sheridan, Montana, helped with the removal of this wire barrier.

In 1994 the bald eagle was taken from the "endangered" species list. It is now classi-

fied as "threatened," a less severe wildlife classification. Eagles in the Gravelly Range are playing an important role in the eagle recovery. A census of 13 nests by the Beaverhead NF (6 nests on the Madison RD) last spring revealed 12 young bald eagles.

For the fourth year in a row, a peregrine falcon nest on the Madison RD has produced at least one young bird each year.

The special food storage order issued for the southern Gravelly Range is proving a great success. A couple of bears (black & grizzly) were running the risk of learning the fatal lesson that humans provide food. But, thanks to the order requiring careful food storage in the area, the bears went into hibernation wild this winter, not posing a threat to humans or themselves.

Two trumpeter swan nests produced three young this year.

Left: Goose Lake
Bald Eagle nest and
six-Point Bull elk.
Below: Ruffed Grouse
Photos by Madison Rd, Beaverhead NF



Integrated Data Base Permits Information Sharing



by Linda Roose,
Computer Specialist
Administration, RO

A new Forest Service strategic information management plan permits efficient capture, consistency and availability of Forest Service information across functional areas. The Chief assigned a national team to develop the plan with the following objectives: Information Management is an integral part of every Forest Service program; data is captured once at its source as a natural course of conducting business; data is consistent, widely shared and available to employees and the public.

This shared data environment system is called "Infrastructure" (INFRA) and utilizes integratable data bases coordinated through modern technology. Currently INFRA resides on the Data General, but is fully portable to the 615 platform and will have the capability to link with GIS information.

Retired Sue Root, R-1 WRHP, served as a member of the INFRA Core Team for 3 years, working with contractors to develop and test data entry screens and processing and provide subject matter expertise. Four Forest Service teams are now providing INFRA training nationwide.

Region One held the first national INFRA 1.0 training, conducted by Carol Russell, R-1 Engineering; Mike Stubbs, R-10; and Susan Oderwald, R-9. Over 20 enthusiastic employees from every level and diverse subject areas met for hands-on training in the capture of baseline Forest Service information. Attendees enjoyed discussions concerning teamwork in gathering cross-functional data that was previously duplicated and stored in separate areas, i.e. engineering, recreation and administration.

Actually over 40 R-1 employees have now been trained in INFRA because a sneak preview session was held in July. Region 1 is well on its way to strategic implementation of Infrastructure and success in Forest Service Information Management.

Recreation and engineering information are the first subject areas integrated into Infrastructure. Other functional areas will be added in the coming months. The Real Property and Money Module training team has scheduled training sessions for spring of 1995 in Atlanta, Portland, Denver and possibly Albuquerque.

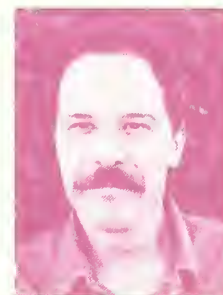
Infrastructure is vital for our organization. It will allow information to be captured during the daily work processes. The stored information will be readily available to all staffs which will move us toward the team effort necessary for successful Ecosystem Management. Forests will not be impacted with spur of the moment upward reporting because the WO will have access to required information. The process will also aid work planning and facilitate studies by indicating trends and tracking costs. No longer will Congress receive conflicting reports from separate stores of information.

For more information about Infrastructure, contact Sue Root, RO Recreation; Carol Russell, RO Engineering; Linda Roose, RO Administration; Tim Gray, RO Management System or the Infrastructure gurus on your Forest.

Below: Students in INFRA training session in RO, Missoula.



New District Ranger Palouse RD, Clearwater National Forest



Carmine N. Lockwood, Aspen, Colorado, is the new district ranger for the Palouse RD, Clearwater NF. He comes to the district from the Aspen RD, White River NF, where he served as assistant ranger and recreation staff officer.

His Forest Service career started in Arizona, working summers while attending high school. He attended Scottsdale Community College and earned a degree in forest management from Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. He did graduate studies at Oregon State University in forest engineering, biodiversity and landscape ecology.

While attending college, Lockwood worked as a trainee on the Darby RD, Bitterroot NF. "The trainee program gave me experience in recreation, wilderness, range, oil and gas, timber sale preparation and silviculture," Lockwood says.

After graduation, 1981, he stayed on with the Darby RD as a forester. In 1983, he transferred to the Avery RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs. There he worked in timber sale planning and implementation, forest planning, public involvement and was the district National Environmental Policy Act coordinator.

He transferred to the Pine RD, Wallowa-Whitman NF, Halfway, Oregon, in 1987. Lockwood was promoted a year later and transferred to the Klamath NF, Happy Camp (California) RD.

Three years later, Lockwood transferred to the Aspen RD. He headed up a team charged with writing an environmental impact statement for a ski area, then moved on to the positions of recreation staff officer and assistant ranger.

Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood are the parents of two children: Shauna, 10, and Andrew, 8.

Personnel Actions

BEAVERHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ADAMS, GUY, lands right of way specialist, SO, promotion, lands program manager, Beaverhead & Deerlodge NFs
BROWN, JUDITH, budget & accounting analyst, SO, quality step increase
CHRISTENSEN, SHERRY, support services clerk, SO, quality step increase
HARVEY, CAROL, forestry technician, Wise River RD, special service award
JATCZYNSKI, MICHAEL, supervisory computer specialist, SO, quality step increase
KIECKBUSH, SANDRA, support services specialist, Sheridan Work Center, spot award
KIRKELIE, LINDA, computer assistant, SO, quality step increase
KOLAR, CHRISTINE, purchasing agent, SO, quality step increase
PETRONI, DIANE, forester, Madison RD, spot award
SELWAY, HAROLD, lead civil engineering technician, SO, special service award
SMELICH, PHYLLIS, support services specialist, Wise River RD, spot award

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

AMOSS, JEFF, forester, SO, temporary promotion to resources staff officer
BEER, JEFF, vocational instructor, Trapper Creek CCC, promoted to supervisory training specialist
BROWN, GARY, forestry technician, West Fork RD, cash award
CARSTARPHEN, CAMELA, forestry technician, Stevensville RD, cash award
KEMPF, MADELYN, public affairs specialist, SO, reassigned to Stevensville RD
MAIS, MARILYN, hydrological technician, Sula RD, promotion
MARSH, SHIRLEY, personnel assistant, SO, cash award
MARVIN, ELEANOR, personnel assistant, SO, promotion to personnel management specialist
OWENS, REGINA, natural resource recreation manager, Sula RD, quality step increase

RESIGNATIONS

COTHRAN, REBECCA, wilderness resource specialist, West Fork RD

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ANDERSON, LYNNANN, forestry technician, Pierce RD, cash award
ARSENA, JERRY, forester, SO, quality step increase
BRADEN, CHRISTINE, civil engineering technician, Lochsa RD, cash award
BRADY, DAVID, civil engineering technician, Palouse RD, cash award
BRANNING, JERRY, forestry technician, North Fork RD, cash award
BRETZ, VERN, civil engineering technician, SO, promotion
BROOKS, ERVIN, supervisory civil engineer, SO, temporary promotion, ecosystem management staff officer
BROWER, DIANE, engineering draftsman, SO, cash award
BURNS, PAIGE, computer programmer analyst, SO, cash awards
CLARK, LEE, forester, cash award, Powell RD
COLE, ARLEN, forestry technician, Palouse RD, quality step increase
DOMAN, RANDY, forestry technician, SO, cash award
EMERY, DAVID, forestry technician, North Fork RD, spot award
JOHNSON, HENRY, range technician, Palouse RD, cash award
KINZER, DONNA, computer assistant, Pierce RD, cash award
KNOLLE, LINDA, forestry technician, SO, cash award
LILLY, LINDA, forester, Pierce RD, cash award
LOCKWOOD, CARMINE, supervisory forester, White River NF, R2, promotion, district ranger, Palouse RD
LOZAR, EDWARD, operations research analyst, SO, quality step increase
MCCORMACK, JIM, forester, Powell RD, cash award
MCTEVIA, CHARLES, laborer, SO, cash award
MEEK, JUDY, resource assistant, Palouse RD, cash award
NORWOOD, JIM, maintenance worker, Powell RD, cash award
OESTREICH, JANET, support services supervisor, Powell RD, cash award
PAULUT, HARTMUT, maintenance worker, Lochsa RD, cash award
PETERSEN, CHARLES, forestry technician, SO, cash award
PETERSON, MICHAEL, forestry technician, Palouse RD, cash award
SCHLUESSLER, NORBERT, supervisory civil engineer, SO, temporary promotion, cash award
SCHUFT, CAROLE, resource clerk, Powell RD, cash award
SHELLEY, KOLLEEN, forestry technician, SO, cash award
STUVLAND, JOHN, forester, Palouse RD, cash award
SUK, SALLY, computer programmer analyst, SO, cash award
THOMPSON, PAUL, civil engineering technician, Lochsa RD, cash award
THOMPSON, STEVE, telecommunications specialist, SO, quality step increase, SO

WELLNER, KENT, forester, Palouse RD, cash award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

HAYES, ELIZABETH, information receptionist, San Bernadino NF, R5, reassignment, information receptionist, Powell RD
MUNSON, STEVEN, forestry technician, Pierce RD, reassignment, North Fork RD

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ANDERSON, JOYCE, support services specialist, Ashland RD, cash award
ANDERSON, ROBERT, range technician, Grand River RD, cash award
BURGER, GUADALUPE, rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, quality step increase
COATS, GARY, civil engineer technician, SO, quality step increase
HECKER, RONALD, range conservationist, Ashland RD, temporary promotion, rangeland management specialist, Ashland RD, cash award
MCALPIN, PAMELA, forestry technician, Ashland RD, cash award
RUFVOLD, COLLEEN, resource clerk, Sheyenne RD, promotion, support services specialist, cash award
SJURSEN, PHILLIP, rangeland management specialist, Medora RD, cash award
SPENCER, EILEEN, archeologist, Ashland RD, cash award
STUDINER, SCOTT, rangeland management specialist, Ashland RD, cash award
VISCONTY, GREG, geologist, SO, cash award

RESIGNATION

WOLKEN, PAIGE, student trainee botany, Sheyenne RD

DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BIEBER, PATRICIA, accounting technician, SO, spot award
BILLETER, TERESA, support services supervisor, Butte RD, time off award, spot award
CRNICH, THOMAS, lead forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, spot award
CULLEN, JACK, forestry technician, Butte RD, Special Act award
DESPAIN, DON, rangeland management specialist, Deer Lodge RD performance award
DODGE, JOCELYN, forester, Butte RD, special act award, spot award
DORVALL, RENE, computer assistant, Butte RD, spot award, time off award
DUECK, SANDRA, computer assistant, Jefferson RD, spot award
EDELIN, RUSSELL, biological science technician, Deer Lodge RD, performance award
ELSBERN, VAN, forest supervisor, SO, special act award
GOEPFERD, HAROLD, supervisory computer specialist, SO, special act award
HAMMOND, ERROL, forester, Deer Lodge RD, performance award
HENNINGSEN, RICK, forestry technician, Butte RD, special act award
HINKLE, HEIDI, information receptionist, Philipsburg RD, spot award
JOHNS, ROBERT, forestry technician, Butte RD, special act award
KAMRUD, THEODORE, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, spot award
KANEY, JAMES, supervisory guidance counselor, CCC, promotion
KELLEY, STEVE, civil engineering technician, Deer Lodge RD, performance award
LABAHN, WENDY, forester, Philipsburg RD, performance award
LAUGHERY, LLOYD, civil engineering technician, Jefferson RD, performance award
LEETZ, GREG, archeological technician, Butte RD, special act award
LUNCEFORD, CECELIA, support services supervisor, Deer Lodge RD, performance award
MARIANI, JINA, supervisory wildlife biologist, Butte RD, special act award
MCCLAIN, GEORGE, range technician, Philipsburg RD, spot award
MCKENZIE, FAWN, purchasing agent, SO, performance award
MCNAMARA, JAMES, forester, Butte RD, spot award
MICKELSON, GINA, resource clerk, Philipsburg RD, spot award
MIRICH, ROBERT, forestry technician, Butte RD, special act award, spot award
OLSON, TRUDI, law enforcement assistant, SO, performance award
PATTERSON, HELEN, office automation clerk, SO, spot award
PERIMAN, RICHARD, archeologist, Butte RD, special act award
PUCCINELLI, EDWARD, forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, spot award
SAJOR-JOYCE, LINDA, computer specialist, SO, promotion, management analyst, R5, RO
SCHIMANSKI, DONNA, support services specialist, Jefferson RD, spot award
SCOTT, RANDALL, surveying technician, SO, spot award

SCOTT, SHAWN, resource clerk, Deer Lodge RD, spot award
 SOVEY, SALLY, wildlife biologist, Butte RD, special act award
 STRICKLAND, LINSEY, forestry technician, SO, performance award, spot award
 TOLF, ERIC, range conservationist, Jefferson RD, spot award
 WEIKEL, ROBERTA, budget & accounting officer, SO, spot award
 WHEELER, THOMAS, forestry technician, Jefferson RD, spot award
 WIEBE, LINDON, forestry technician, Philipsburg RD, special act award
 WINKER LENA, office automation clerk, Deer Lodge RD, spot award

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BULL, FRED, teacher, CCC, career conditional appointment
 CASEY, LESLIE, teacher, CCC, career conditional appointment
 LIEBETRAU, SHEILA, teacher, CCC, career conditional appointment
 SOVEY, SALLY, wildlife biologist, Butte RD, to same, Butte District, BLM
 WEIKEL, ROBERTA, budget & accounting officer, SO, reassignment, accountant, Boise NF, SO
 WYANT, KRIS, teacher, CCC, career conditional appointment

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

ALBERT, BOB, office automation clerk, SO, promotion, logistics assistant
 ALLISON, RITA, forestry technician, Glacier View RD, spot award
 ANDERSON, JERRY, supervisory forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, quality step increase
 BABCOCK, JOHN, civil engineer technician, SO, performance award
 BANGEMAN, DANIEL, civil engineer technician, SO, performance award
 BENNETT, WALTER, forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, quality step increase
 BUNNELL, DAVID, forester, SO, accepted fuels management specialist, WO, Boise, Idaho
 ECKERT, CAROL, acting district ranger, Buffalo RD, Bridger-Teton NF, accepted Spotted Bear, district ranger position
 FALCON, DAVID, engineer equipment operator leader, SO, performance award
 GANIERE, JOHN, civil engineer technician, SO, performance award
 GRONLEY, JAMIE, civil engineer technician, SO, performance award
 HACKMAN, BRETT, computer assistant, SO, performance award
 HYDE, KATHY, hydrologist technician, Tally Lake RD, performance award
 JOHNSON, CAROL, budget assistant, SO, performance award
 LINSE, PAUL, supervisory forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, quality step increase
 LONG, BARBARA, personnel assistant, SO, performance award
 MANNING, VIENNA, personnel assistant, SO, quality step increase
 MARISCAL, JANET, office automation clerk, SO, special act award
 MARTIN, LUCINDA, personnel management specialist, SO, performance award
 MCATEE, BRUCE, supervisory forestry technician, Hungry Horse RD, quality step increase
 MCDEVITT, LINDA, personnel clerk, SO, performance award
 MILLER, DAVID, supervisory technician, SO, special act award
 MILLER, DOREEN, personnel assistant, SO, performance award
 MORGAN, DEVVI, budget & accounting analyst, SO, performance award
 MULLINS, DARLENE, administrative officer, Hungry Horse RD, performance award
 NEVINS, JOANN, lead supply clerk, SO, special act award
 PUDELKA, JAMES, hydrologist technician, Tally Lake RD, performance award
 SCOTT, JERRY, civil engineer technician, SO, performance award
 SMITH, LINDA, land surveyor, SO, performance award
 SODERSTROM, KEITH, inventory supervisor, SO, spot award
 STANLEY, GAIL, computer assistant, Glacier View Rd, quality step increase
 TREAT, PATSY, personnel management specialist, SO, performance award
 UPTON, EDNA, voucher examiner, SO, performance award
 WITTINGER, TOM, wildlife & fish staff officer, SO, quality step increase
 ZIKA, LEAH, purchasing agent, Tally Lake RD, quality step increase

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

ZIKA, LEAH, purchasing agent, realigned from Tally Lake RD to Glacier View RD

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BLASIG, PAULETTE, resource clerk, Bozeman RD, cash award
 DENNEE, BOB, forester, SO, cash award
 GAY, JEANNIE, forestry technician, Bozeman RD, time off award
 HILLIARD, ELAINE, procurement assistant, SO, promotion
 JOHNSON, LYNN, budget and finance officer, SO, cash award
 KRATVILLE, SANDY, wildlife biologist, Livingston RD, cash award
 KRATVILLE, STEVE, forester, Livingston RD, cash award
 LAUGHLIN, SCOTT, information receptionist, Livingston RD, promotion
 LOUSEN, BOB, personnel officer, SO, cash award

MARX, BARB, resource specialist, Bozeman RD, cash award
 METZGER, SHERRY, computer assistant, Bozeman RD, cash award
 NEFF-SHEA, JULIE, forester, Bozeman RD, cash award
 NELSON, KAREN, support services specialist, Livingston RD, cash award
 SCHOFIELD, GORDON, forester, SO, cash award
 SENGER, SALLY, forestry technician, Bozeman RD, quality step increase
 WOMACK, KATHY, resource assistant, SO, cash award

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BOGAERT, JAMES, forestry technician, Lincoln RD, time off award
 BRILES, CAROL, personnel officer, SO, performance award
 CANFIELD, JODIE, wildlife biologist, Townsend RD, time off and spot awards
 COLE, LARRY, forester, Helena RD, quality step increase
 COLE, MAUREEN, personnel management specialist, SO, quality step increase
 CUNEO, KURT, supervisory resource management specialist, Helena RD, quality step increase
 CURTIS, GAYLENE, office automation clerk, Townsend RD, time off award
 DOUTHETT, SHELLEY, rangeland management specialist, Townsend RD, time off award, spot award
 FINLEY, ROSANNE, forestry technician, Helena RD, time off award
 GOBBS, DEENA, office automation clerk, Townsend RD, time off award
 GONNOUD, TOM, supervisory forestry technician, Townsend RD, time off award
 GUEST, JAMES, supervisory forester, SO, performance award
 HARPER, ARCHIE, biological science technician, Townsend RD, time off award
 HART, BARBARA, office services assistant, SO, spot award
 HAWKINS, DONNA, forestry technician, Lincoln RD, time off award
 IHLE, BETH, geologist, Townsend RD, time off award, spot award
 JOHNSON, DIANE, range technician, Townsend RD, time off award, spot award
 JONES, JACK, forestry technician, Townsend RD, time off award
 LARANCE, SHARLENE, realty specialist, SO, spot award
 LARSEN, DAVID, forestry technician, Townsend RD, time off award
 LAVELL, JEAN, wildlife biologist, Townsend RD, time off award
 LEATHERMAN, KEITH, forestry technician, Helena RD, time off award
 LEE, RAE ELLEN, landscape architect, Helena SO, time off award
 MAINWARING, DANIEL, supervisory forester, Helena RD, time off award, quality step increase
 MCCANN, DAVID, forestry technician, Helena RD, time off award
 MCKENNA, CHARLES, civil engineer, SO, special act award
 MCLAUGHLIN, DOREEN, accounting technician, Helena SO, promotion, performance award
 MILBURN, DENNIS, fire management officer, SO, performance award
 NYMAN, MESIA, district ranger, Helena RD, promotion, Bridger-Teton NF
 OLIVER, MICHAEL, information officer, SO, performance award
 ONDOV, RACHEL, rangeland management specialist, Townsend RD, time off award
 OLSEN, LOIS, rangeland management specialist, Helena SO, time off award
 PANEK, GEORGE, forester, Lincoln RD, time off award
 SCOTT, SHARON, forestry technician, Helena RD, time off award
 STANFORD, SHIRLEY, support services supervisor, Townsend RD, time off award
 STUART, SIDNEY, hydrologist, SO, quality step increase
 SOUTHALL, LINDA, office automation clerk, Townsend RD, time off award
 TOBOL, SHARON, support services supervisor, Helena RD, special act award
 WILSON, LYDIA, information assistant, SO, spot award
 WYATT, STEVE, range conservationist, Townsend RD, time off award

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

CARY, CAMILLA, resource clerk, Priest Lake RD, temporary promotion, office automation clerk
 FORSELL, ROBYN, personnel management specialist, SO, temporary promotion, information systems manager
 JACKSON, PATTY, office automation clerk, Priest Lake RD, temporary promotion, information receptionist
 LIENEMANN, NOELLE, student trainee, landscape architect, SO, promotion, career conditional appointment
 LOPER, ROBIN, office automation clerk, SO, promotion
 MAUPIN, LEANN, personnel assistant, SO, temporary promotion
 MOTTERN, BERTALEE, employee relations assistant, SO, temporary promotion, personnel management specialist
 WILLIAMS, JULIE, resource clerk, SO, promotion, resource assistant

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BARRETT, MARTHA, supervisory accounting technician, SO, performance award
 BILLS, MICHAEL, contract specialist, SO, performance award
 BRAUN, SHEILA, forester, Rexford RD, performance award
 BREDESON, GLENN, computer specialist, SO, performance award
 CORYELL, LARRY, supervisory forester, Three Rivers RD, quality step increase
 DESY, PEGGY, supervisory budget accounting analyst, quality step increase
 ENRIGHT-BAWDEN, DIANA, public information technician, Cabinet RD, promotion to public information assistant, SO
 FANSLER, MARY, accounting technician, SO, performance award
 FLANNIGAN, JAMES, forestry technician, Three Rivers RD, quality step increase
 GENTRY, DONNA, forestry technician, Rexford RD, special act
 GODDARD, KENNETH, civil engineering technician, West Zone Engineering, promotion to supervisory civil engineering technician, East Zone Engineering
 HANSON, RONALD, civil engineering technician, East Zone Engineering, promotion
 HILL, KATRINA, resource technician, Rexford RD, special act
 HUNTER, CHARLIE, acting fire management officer, Three Rivers RD, performance award
 HVIZDAK, RONALD, forestry technician, Rexford RD, performance
 KILROY, JAMES, forestry technician, Rexford RD, special act
 NIX, JANET, resource clerk, Rexford RD, special act
 PLUID, JACK M, maintenance worker, Rexford RD, performance award
 SHIRA, MICHAEL, forester, Three Rivers RD, quality step increase
 STEWARD, ELLERY, forestry technician, Rexford RD, special act
 WICKA, LETA, procurement clerk, SO, special act

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BALBONI, MIKE, acting district ranger, Payette NF, promotion, district ranger, Three Rivers RD
 HAWLEY, DALE, supervisory land surveyor, reassignment, management analyst, planning

RESIGNATIONS

MAFFEI, KATHRYN, forestry technician, Libby RD
 ORR, CARLENE, cartographic aid, Libby RD

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BUTTS, WAYNE, rangeland management specialist, Musselshell RD, spot award
 DECKER, MONTANA, computer program analyst, SO, performance award
 HERTEL, JACQUELINE, budget and accounting officer, SO, time off award
 MORRIS, SANDI, archeologist, Rocky Mountain RD, special act award
 SMITH, RICHARD, supervisory forester, SO, special act award

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

CORTS, PATRICK, administrative officer, Superior RD, promotion administrative officer, Intermountain Research Station
 ECK, JOYCE, resource clerk, SO, promotion, realty specialist
 LACER, CHUCK, civil engineering technician, West Zone Engineering, progressive promotion
 MALONEY, HOLLY, land forestry technician, Missoula RD, temporary promotion, supervisory forestry technician
 NEILL, ELIZABETH, landscape architect, SO, progressive promotion
 POLANSKI, DONALD, land forestry technician, North Fork RD, Clearwater NF, promotion, law enforcement officer, Law Enforcement & Investigation, West Montana Zone.

REASSIGNMENTS/TRANSFERS

BERON, SUE, contract specialist, Bitterroot NF, reassignment to Lolo SO
 ENSTROM, CINDY, district ranger, Powers RD, Siskiyou NF, R6, reassignment to Superior RD
 ENSTROM, GREGORY, forester, Gold Beach RD, Siskiyou NF, R6 reassignment to Missoula RD
 MCPHERSON, TAMMY, financial assistant, Seeley Lake RD, reassignment to accounting technician, SO

REGIONAL OFFICE

AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

BARREIROS, ROBERT, offset photographer, ENG, spot award
 BASSETTE, GENE, carto technician, ENG, promotion from Aerial Fire Depot
 BLOCKER, LARRY, landscape architect, WRHP, quality step increase
 BOND, ROBERT, offset photographer, ENG, spot award
 BOWER, FREDRICK, highway engineer, ENG, promotion

CUPLIN, SUE, contract specialist, ADM, quality step increase
 DARNELL, JANE, realty specialist, LM, promotion from R-2, Medicine Bow NF
 DEIST, LORNEY, criminal investigator, LEI, quality step increase
 DRAKE, PHILIP, land surveyor, ENG, cash award
 DUFOUR, DALE, supervisory public affairs specialist, PAO, cash award
 ELLINGTON, JUDITH, supervisory budget & accounting, ENG, spot award
 ENGER, DARL, civil engineer, ENG, spot award
 ERIKSSON, MERVIN, supervisory structural engineer, ENG, cash award
 EVANS, CAROL, public affairs specialist, PAO, cash award
 FROST, JOYCE, office automation clerk, MTDC, promotion
 HABER, JONATHAN, forester, LFP, cash award
 HENDERSON, ROGER, resource specialist, ADM, spot award
 HORN, ELIZABETH, director, PAO, cash award
 HOSKINSON, PAIGE, office auto clerk, MTDC, promotion
 HOWARD, JAMES, computer specialist, ADM, spot award
 JOHNKE, TRACY L., office auto clerk, MTDC, promotion
 KEKICH, JANET, computer specialist, ADM, cash award
 KEYES, THOMAS, environmental engineer, ENG, cash award
 LAGO, JACQUELYN, forester, Lolo NF, cash award
 LANHAM, LINDA, structural engineer, ENG, spot award
 MANEY, GERARD, mechanical engineering technician, ENG, cash award
 MANN, JEFFREY, program analyst, ADM, cash award
 MARSHALL, RICHARD, mineral economist, LM, cash award
 MERKLEY, MICHAEL, criminal investigator, LEI, quality step increase
 OELKE, KATHRYN, supervisory information / privacy specialist, MS, cash award
 PATTERSON, DONALD, land surveyor, ENG, cash award
 PEARSON, ROBERTA, executive assistant, RFO, quality step increase
 RAPPE-DANIELS, OLLEKE, program analyst, LFP, quality step increase
 RAMOS, RICHARD, administrative director, ADM, temporary promotion
 RUSSELL, CAROL, computer specialist, ENG, cash award
 SILKWOOD, JEFF, stay in school, LM, spot award
 SOLOGUB, JOSEPH, criminal investigator, LEI, spot award
 TANGEMAN, RONALD, civil engineer, ENG, cash award
 TROTTER, NANCY, office automation assistant, WRHP, quality step increase
 WEISGERBER, GLORIA, public affairs specialist, PAO, cash award

RESIGNATIONS

CHAVEZ, TINA, stay in school, LFP, graduated

Newsletter Guidelines

The Northern Region News is published by the Northern Region Public Affairs Office for employees and retirees. The following are guidelines for submitting stories:

- Articles should feature Forest Service employees and retirees involved in Forest Service activities and projects.

- Articles must be concise and timely. All articles are subject to editing, and may not be used if outdated, inappropriate, or if space does not permit.

- Photos should be of good quality and contrast. Black and white glossy prints are preferred.

- Send articles to J.Moore:R01A (Data General) or Jud Moore, Northern Region Public Affairs Office, P.O.Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807. The public affairs officer on your Forest may want to preview articles before they are sent. If so, please follow that process.

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RETIREMENTS

Kenneth A. Briggeman, timber management officer, Kootenai NF, retired in August, 1994 with 32 years of experience with the Forest Service. He began his career in 1962 at the Pacific Southwest Experiment Station and worked for several National Forests. He moved to the Kootenai NF in October, 1983.

Darl Enger, geographic information system data base coordinator, retired in January after 33 years with the USDA Forest Service. A native of Missoula, Enger is a graduate of Missoula County High School and holds an engineering degree from Montana State University. He started to work for the Forest Service on the Bonita RD, Lolo NF, in June of 1958. Enger was assigned to the engineering staff at the Lolo NF headquarters in 1960, and served on Ninemile RD until September, 1962. After serving on the Northern Region Headquarters engineering staff until 1963, he was promoted and assigned to the Clearwater NF, until 1970. Enger served two years on the engineering staff of the Okanogan NF, Washington. After nineteen years on the Ketchikan (Alaska) Area engineering staff, 1972-1991, he was promoted to the Northern Region Headquarters staff in Missoula. Mr. & Mrs. Enger will continue to make their home in Missoula.

James L. Hagemeyer, director of ecosystem assessment & planning, RO, retired in January after 34 years with the Forest Service. A native of Burlington, IA, he is a graduate of Iowa State University in landscape architecture. In the summers of 1956 to 1960, Hagemeyer worked on the Medicine Bow NF, Wyoming, as a smokejumper and in the White River NF, Colorado. He accepted a permanent appointment with the Forest Service in 1961 and was assigned to the White River NF. He served on the Frying Pan RD, White River NF, 1963 - 64; Arapaho NF, Colorado, 1964-70; Dillon RD, Arapaho NF, 1970-73; Rocky Mountain RO, 1973-74; Black Hills NF, South Dakota, 1974-77; Ottawa NF, Michigan, 1977-79; Eastern RO, 1980-86. Hagemeyer served in the Northern RO from 1986 until his retirement. Mr. & Mrs. Hagemeyer will continue to make their home in Missoula. He plans to start a landscape architectural business, specializing in planning and design.

Bernard Hilde, loadmaster foreman, Missoula Aerial Fire Depot, retired in January. Hilde retired after 24 1/2 years of Federal service: three years in the military and 21 1/2 years with the Forest Service. A native of Minnesota, Hilde graduated from Borup High School, and the University of Montana. Hilde began working for the Forest Service in 1969 and has worked as a smokejumper ever since. Mr. & Mrs. Hilde will continue to make their home in Clinton, MT.

Stanley L. Krugman, after 33 years with the Forest Service, has decided to retire. Krugman began his career as a plant physiologist with the Pacific Southwest Station with assignments in Berkeley and Placerville. In 1971, he moved to the Washington Office and served as staff assistant and the director of the forest management research staff. For the past two years he has been on assignment with the World Bank developing a resource conservation program for Eastern Europe.

Chuck Sigler, Glacier National Park management assistant, retired in January after 36 years of Federal service. He supervised Glacier National Park's safety program, concessions management staff, public affairs and public health personnel. Before joining the National Park Service, Sigler started his Federal career working on trails in the Shoshone NF, Wyoming, in 1950. After serving as a Forest Service smokejumper in Missoula, he worked as a forester on Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

Ted Kelly, Nez Perce National Forest, retired January 3 after 28 years with the Forest Service. "Retirement means staying home, relaxing and watching more college baseball games," says Ted. Born and raised in Moscow, Idaho, Kelley served 2 years with the military during the Korean War. He worked for many years in the private construction business before he took a job with the Forest Service in 1967 on the Nez Perce NF engineering staff. Self-motivated, Kelley started taking college classes at night and weekends in 1980. He took personal leave in order to attend daytime classes. He completed the requirements for a BS degree in business administration and graduated in 1986 from Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, ID. Ted and his wife, Maxine, live in Grangeville. They serve as officers of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Elks (BPOE). They are the parents of two grown sons who live in the Grangeville area. For Ted, retirement means off with engineering and on to tinkering with his airplane.

OTHER RETIREMENTS

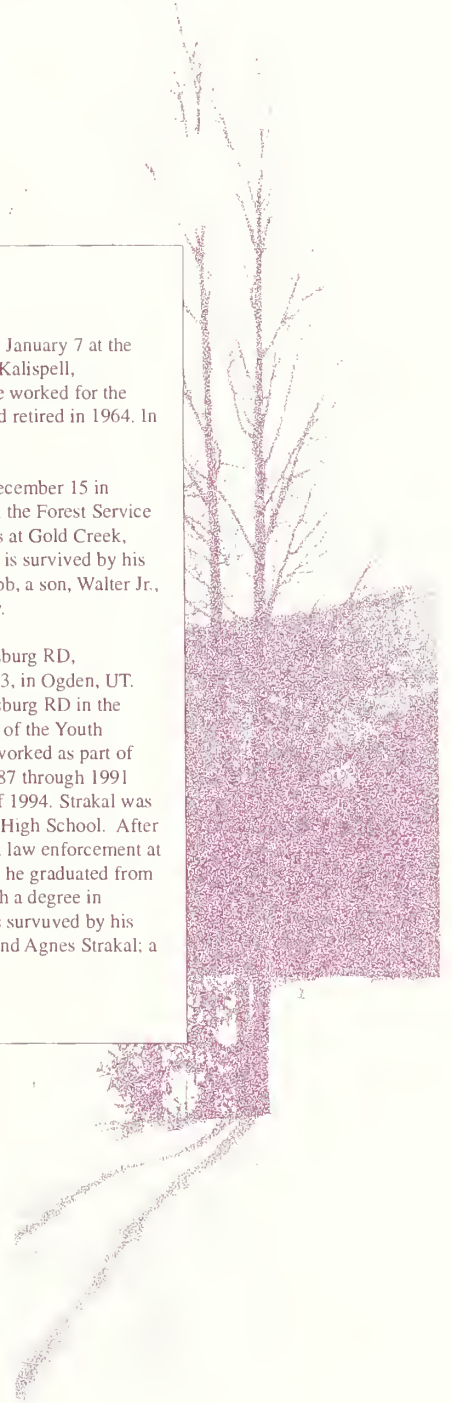
BOWMAN, MARY, public information assistant, Clearwater NF
COOK, BERTHA, forestry technician, Priest Lake RD, Idaho
Panhandle NF
JOHNSON, HENRY, range technician, Palouse RD, Clearwater NF
KERSEY, THOMAS, maintenance worker, East Zone Engineering,
Kootenai NF
MIDYETT, PAT, accounting technician, Kootenai NF
MOORE, MARIAN, information receptionist, Clearwater NF
MOORE, ROBERT, civil engineering technician, West Zone
Engineering, Kootenai NF
STEADMAN, JAMES, equipment operator, Clearwater NF
TRIBE, LOREN, motor vehicle operator, Clearwater NF
WILLIAMS, RON, forester, Fortine RD, Kootenai NF
WOLF, CARL, forester, Custer NF

In Memoriam

Mabel M. Lindsay, 87, died January 7 at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, MT. Born in Osborne, KS, she worked for the Forest Service in Missoula and retired in 1964. In 1988 she moved to Kalispell.

Walter L. Robb Sr., died December 15 in Superior, MT. He retired from the Forest Service in 1957, after serving 24 years at Gold Creek, Seeley Lake and Superior. He is survived by his wife, Florence McDonald Robb, a son, Walter Jr., and a daughter, Betty Benway.

Sean J. Strakal, 28, Philipsburg RD, Deerlodge NF, died January 13, in Ogden, UT. He first worked on the Philipsburg RD in the summer of 1985 as a member of the Youth Conservation Corps. Strakal worked as part of the district trail crew from 1987 through 1991 and returned in the summer of 1994. Strakal was a graduate of Granite County High School. After earning an associate degree in law enforcement at Dawson Community College, he graduated from Montana State University with a degree in recreation management. He is survived by his wife, Carol; his parents, Joe and Agnes Strakal; a sister and five brothers.





by Tom Whitford,
District Wildlife Biologist,
Musselshell Ranger District,
Lewis & Clark National Forest

Fire is "Gobbling" the Little Snowy Mountains

Burns Benefit Turkeys

Once again, fire left its distinguishing mark in the Little Snowy Mountains of central Montana.

This blaze, unlike the many wildfires of 1994, was set with hopes that future prescribed fires would, once again, safely influence this fire-spawned landscape.

In the spring of 1994, the Musselshell Ranger District, with funding from the National Wild Turkey Federation, conducted prescribed burning on 220 acres of ponderosa pine and grassland habitat that provides essential habitat for many species, including the Merriam's wild turkey.

This was the first time in Montana that the National Wild Turkey Federation has conducted a State Super Fund habitat improvement project. The Lewis & Clark NF planned and carried out this Challenge Cost-Share project through the Making Tracks Program.

Primary goal of the burn was to improve turkey brood rearing habitat by killing encroaching ponderosa pine and stimulating grass and shrub production. About 90% of the 220 acres was blackened by the prescribed burn. Vegetation in the treatment area began its recovery process with the sudden influx of nutrients. Recovery started literally within days.

Historically, fire played a significant role in the Little Snowy Mountains. Fire maintained the open grown stands of ponderosa pine while providing desirable habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Over 80 years of fire suppression left dense stands of young ponderosa pine with limited habitat values for wildlife. Subsequent wildfires have been high-intensity fires because of high fuel loads, rather than the historical low-intensity, ground fires that maintained light fuel loads.

Wild turkey transplants in Montana have been a major success story. Beginning with the first few birds released in 1959, the population has blossomed to more than 80,000 birds. Habitat improvement projects will further aid population growth and expansion into suitable areas.

In the coming years, the Musselshell Ranger District plans to implement more controlled burns as well as other habitat improvement projects with help from the National Wild Turkey Federation.

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